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The Cruise of the "Janet Nichol" among the South Sea Islands.

A Diary by Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson. x and 189 pp. Map, ill. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1914. \$2. 8½ x 5½.

Anything relating to Robert Louis Stevenson cannot fail to be of interest. Mrs. Stevenson's diary of a cruise in a tramp steamer among the South Sea Isles is most interesting. The diary was jotted down from day to day, with a view to furnishing material for a romance by Stevenson, which in fact was never written. The course of the cruise was from Sydney, Australia, to Auckland, New Zealand, Samoa, Manahiki Island, the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, the New Hebrides, and New Caledonia, back to Sydney. The natives of the South Sea Islands are shown to be children of nature, open, indolent, cheerful. Leprosy, elephantiasis, and anemia from a low diet are common. Half-castes and white men living with native women come into view, faithful to them, and preferring starvation to separation from their families. Admirers of Stevenson are indebted to his wife for this new book.

DAVID H. BUEL.

EUROPE

Things Seen in Sweden. By W. Barnes Stevni. xv and 254 pp. Ills., index. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York, 1915. 75 cents. 6 x 4½.

An English tourist's record of his trip through Sweden. It gives quite an exhaustive description of the various provinces and places of interest in Sweden and of the various peoples who inhabit it. Town life in Sweden, as seen in Stockholm, receives a special chapter. An account of Lapland and its inhabitants also finds place. There are chapters on Swedish sport, the Swedish army and navy, and notable men and women of the country. The half-tones of Swedish scenes and of Swedish people are of the highest grade and lend further interest to the booklet.

DAVID H. BUEL.

Ten Years near the Arctic Circle. By J. J. Armistead. 252 pp. Ills. Headley Brothers, London, 1913. 3s. 6d.

Mr. Armistead is carrying on, among the fisherfolk on islands off the coast of Norway, a mission work similar to that of Dr. W. T. Grenfell along the coast of Labrador. From island to island, Mr. Armistead, accompanied by his family, sail in their boat the *Red Cross*, caring for the sick and injured, and preaching the gospel. The author relates his varied and exciting experiences. He tells of the life of the people, of the privations they undergo, and of the urgent need to relieve their suffering, in time of sickness or accident, by means of adequately equipped hospitals, trained nurses and physicians, on the more remote islands; for, until a comparatively recent date, sickness and accident to the islanders had gone for days untended, there being no physicians within ready call. But as a result of the author's endeavors to better this condition, permanent hospitals have been erected and competent medical attendance provided on some of the islands. Churches also have been established, the people being eager to attend. The book is well illustrated and well worth reading.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

Résumés des Cahiers No. 1 jusqu'à 9. Udgivet af Generalmajor V. H. O. Madsen. 48 pp. Den Danske Gradmaaling, Ny Raekke, No. 10. Copenhagen, 1912. 11 x 9.

In order to facilitate the reading of its new series of publications, the Danish "Gradmaaling" has issued résumés in French of the nine volumes issued to date. Future volumes will have similar résumés.

The contents of these nine volumes are as follows: (1) summary of work accomplished by previous director and linking up of triangulation nets of Denmark and Sweden; (2) determination of relative intensity of gravity on various islands (since 1904 an improved Sterneck apparatus, made by Fechner of Potsdam, has been used, and former inexplicable sources of error eliminated); (3, 8) precise levels in Jutland; (4) leveling across the Straits; (5, 6, 7) twenty-three determinations of latitude, Horrebow's method, and eighteen after Sterneck's

program (Sterneck's program was adopted for the later observations to expedite the work and gave satisfactory, though less exact, results than the older method); (9) determination of Danish mean sea-level and comparison with Prussian and Swedish datums.

JAMES GORDON STEESE.

English Travelers of the Renaissance. By C. Howard. xvii and 233 pp. Ills., index. John Lane Co., New York, 1914. \$2.50. 9 x 6.

At the close of the sixteenth century travel became the fashion as the only means of acquiring modern languages and modern history, as well as the accomplishments and social graces by which a young man won his way at Court. Many books were therefore written for intending travelers. Clare Howard says that these books, "taken in chronological order outline for us the life of the traveling student.

The author expresses the hope that a survey of these works will be useful to students of literature, will show in a new light English society in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and will aid in the interpretation of the great works of literature dealing with those times. The book is to be commended.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

France and the French People. (The Nations of the War Series.) Edited by L. G. Redmond-Howard. 167 pp. Sully & Kleinteich, New York, 1914 (?). 50 cents. 7 x 5.

This book is a volume in the "Nations of the War" series and bears the publishers' announcement that it is "up to date;" yet no date, whether of publication, or copyright, or printing appears anywhere between its covers. The work is a popular account of the origin and history of the *Ancien Régime* in France; of Modern France, its politics and religion, its language and literature, its trade, commerce and economics, its constitution, its ambitions and ideals, its character and spirit.

DAVID H. BUEL.

Rouen: Étude d'une agglomération urbaine. Par J. Levainville. 418 pp. Maps, ill. Armand Colin, Paris, 1913. Fr. 7.50. 9 x 5½.

A wealth of information about Rouen past and present, historical rather than geographical. Certainly no European city can be understood without an account of its history. Rouen was placed at the ford nearest the mouth of the Seine at the head of navigation. To-day both roads and railroads cross the river farther down and, although the Seine has been dredged to three meters at Rouen, the deep sea ships mostly stop at Havre. Levainville's account shows that the city grew as long as the old conditions dominated and has since become of secondary importance. But this is not explicitly referred to its cause in the change of conditions. Levainville's Rouen reaches out into the world to find food for its increasing numbers and raw material for its factories. There is the alternative of a Rouen that was so enterprising and reached out so far with her goods that she prospered and increased in size. The city that just grows and has therefore to feed itself is not geographic. Only cities that do feed themselves abundantly can grow. The checks to progress have come of politics and the rivalry of fitter places in supplying Rouen's markets.

What are the actual modern conditions of Rouen? Has it a system of sewers and running water? Apparently not, but there is no definite statement, nor about the system and cost of tramway transportation or of street lighting. But the book does contain a great deal of interest. MARK JEFFERSON.

The Spell of Flanders. An outline of the history, legends and art of Belgium's famous northern provinces. By Edward Neville Vose. 517 pp. Map, index. The Page Co., Boston, 1915. \$2.50. 8 x 6.

The author's travels in Flanders began in May, 1914, and ended in the opening month of the war. In this intimate picture of Flemish life and land the reader will see the country as it was before the war. Many of the monu-